Alberta Labour Force Profiles

Aged 45 and Older
2011

Alberta

Highlights

1. Population of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

- At 45.1%, Alberta had the lowest proportion of people aged 45 and older in its working age population in Canada in 2011.
- The number of Albertans aged 45 and older increased by 43.2% between 2001 and 2011.

2. Labour Force Statistics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

- In 2011, 38.8% of Alberta's labour force was aged 45 and older.
- At 63.4%, Albertans aged 45 and older had the highest labour force participation rate among the provinces.
- The employment rate of Albertans aged 45 and older was the highest in the country.
- The unemployment rate for Albertans aged 45 and older was lower than the rate for all Albertans.

3. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Industry

- In 2011, 72.8% of Albertans aged 45 and older were employed in the Services-Producing sector.
- Of all Albertans employed in the Agricultural industry, 59.7% were aged 45 and older.

4. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Occupation

- Sales and service; Business, finance and administration; Trades, transport and equipment operators; and Management occupations employed more 57.4% of Albertans aged 45 and older.
- Higher proportions of Albertans aged 45 and older than Albertans were employed in the following occupations: Management; Business, finance and administration; Health; and Unique to primary industry; and Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities.

5. Educational Levels of Alberta's Labour Force Aged 45 and Older

- The percentage of Alberta's labour force aged 45 and older with at least a university degree was 37.2% in 2011.
- The number of Albertans aged 45 and older in the labour force with at least a high school diploma increased by 298,400, or 64.9% during the past decade.

1. Population of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

For the purpose of this profile, working age population (WAP) refers to people who are 15 years and older (please refer to the Appendix for definitions of labour force terms).

Alberta had the lowest proportion of people aged 45 and older in its working age population in 2011 at 45.1%, up from 40.1% in 2001. (Figure 1) Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest proportion at 56.1%.

Figure 1

Number and Per cent of People Aged 45 and Older, Canada and Provinces, 2001 and 2011

	2001			2011		
	Working Age Population (15+ years)	Number of People Aged 45 and Older (45+ years)	% Working Age Population (45+ years)	Working Age Population (15+ years)	Number of People Aged 45 and Older (45+ years)	% Working Age Population (45+ years)
Canada	**24,439,000**	**10,930,000**	**44.7%**	**27,987,300**	**14,308,900**	**51.1%**
Newfoundland and Labrador	427,300	196,000	45.9%	428,800	240,600	56.1%
Prince Edward Island	107,800	50,400	46.8%	119,200	65,400	54.9%
Nova Scotia	742,700	351,600	47.3%	779,100	434,600	55.8%
New Brunswick	599,900	279,000	46.5%	619,400	345,500	55.8%
Quebec	5,938,300	2,748,400	46.3%	6,575,800	3,493,900	53.1%
Ontario	9,399,900	4,131,600	44.0%	10,926,300	5,510,800	50.4%
Manitoba	861,400	395,400	45.9%	953,300	482,300	50.6%
Saskatchewan	744,600	345,200	46.4%	800,000	409,800	51.2%
Alberta	2,364,900	947,900	40.1%	3,006,600	1,357,200	45.1%
British Columbia	3,252,300	1,484,500	45.6%	3,778,800	1,968,700	52.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

Albertans aged 45 to 54 accounted for 18.5% of the population in 2011, up from 17.8% in 2001. (Figure 2) Those aged 55 to 64 years were 13.8% of Alberta's working age population in 2011 compared to 10.2% in 2001. Albertans aged 65 years and over accounted for 12.8% of Alberta's population in 2011 compared to 12.1% in 2001.

Figure 2

Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Age Group, 2001 and 2011

	2001		2011	
	Number	% of WAP	Number	% of WAP
45 years and over	**947,900**	**40.1%**	**1,357,200**	**45.1%**
45-54 years	420,900	17.8%	556,300	18.5%
55-64 years	241,400	10.2%	415,800	13.8%
65+ years	285,600	12.1%	385,100	12.8%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

Alberta's working age population in 2001 was over 2.3 million. (Figure 3) By 2011, it had increased by 27.1% to just over 3.0 million. In the last 10 years, Canadians aged 45 and older increased by 30.9%, or approximately 3.4 million people. Albertans aged 45 years and over accounted for 12.1% of the total Canadian increase within this age group.

The growth rate of Albertans aged 45 and older was 12.3 percentage points higher than the growth rate of Canadians aged 45 and older. During the past 10 years, Albertans aged 45 and older increased by 43.2%, compared to Canada's 30.9%. However, Alberta's working age population increased by 27.1% over this period compared to the increase of 14.5% for Canada's working age population over the same period. The share of people aged 45 and older in Alberta's working age population increased from 40.1% in 2001 to 45.1% in 2011 while the share of people aged 45 and older in Canada's working age population increased from 44.7% in 2001 to 51.1% in 2011.

Figure 3

Working Age Population (15+ years), Canada and Alberta, 2001 and 2011				
	2001	2011	Growth	% Growth
Canadians	**24,439,000**	**27,987,300**	**3,548,300**	**14.5%**
Canadians Aged 45 and Older	10,930,000	14,308,900	3,378,900	30.9%
Albertans	**2,364,900**	**3,006,600**	**641,700**	**27.1%**
Albertans Aged 45 and Older	947,900	1,357,200	409,300	43.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

The population of Albertans aged 55-64 increased by 72.2% over the ten-year period compared to 32.2% for the 45-54 year olds and 34.8% for those aged 65 and over. (Figure 4)

Figure 4

Growth of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Age Group, 2001 and 2011				
	2001	2011	Growth	% Growth
45+ years	**947,900**	**1,357,200**	**409,300**	**43.2%**
45-54 years	420,900	556,300	135,400	32.2%
55-64 years	241,400	415,800	174,400	72.2%
65+ years	285,600	385,100	99,500	34.8%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

2. Labour Force Statistics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older

In 2011, Albertans aged 45 years and older accounted for 38.8% of the provincial labour force and 31.4% of those who were unemployed. (Figure 5)

Figure 5

Labour Force Statistics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older, 2011			
	Alberta (15+ Years)	**Albertans (45+ years)**	**% of Albertans Aged 45 and Older)**
Working Age Population	3,006,600	1,357,200	45.1%
Labour Force	2,215,200	860,200	38.8%
Employment	2,094,100	822,200	39.3%
Unemployment	121,000	38,000	31.4%
Participation Rate	73.7%	63.4%	---
Employment Rate	69.7%	60.6%	---
Unemployment Rate	5.5%	4.4%	---

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

In 2011, Albertans aged 45-54 years had the second lowest unemployment rate after those aged 65 years and older at 3.7%. (Figure 6) However, they had the highest participation and employment rates when compared to those aged 55-64 years and the 65 and older age groups.

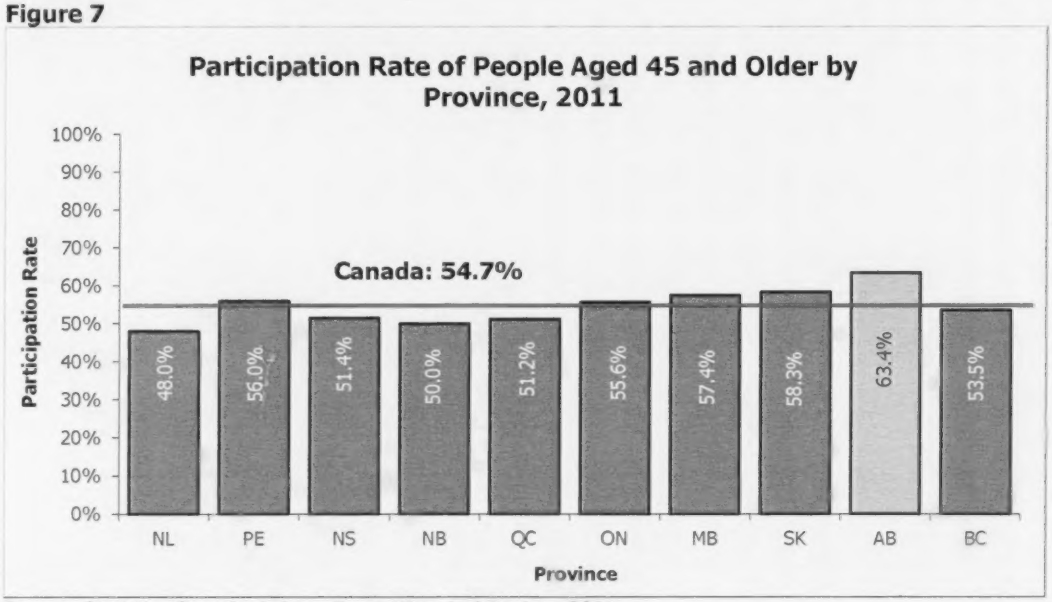
Figure 6

Labour Force Characteristics of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Age Group, 2011				
	45+ years	**45-54 years**	**55-64 years**	**65+ years**
Working Age Population	1,357,200	556,300	415,800	385,100
Labour Force	860,200	490,400	299,400	70,400
Employment	822,200	469,900	284,500	67,800
Unemployment	38,000	20,600	14,900	2,600
Participation Rate	63.4%	88.2%	72.0%	18.3%
Employment Rate	60.6%	84.5%	68.4%	17.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.2%	5.0%	3.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

Albertans aged 45 and older had the highest participation rate in Canada at 63.4%. (Figure 7) This was 8.7 percentage points higher than the national average.

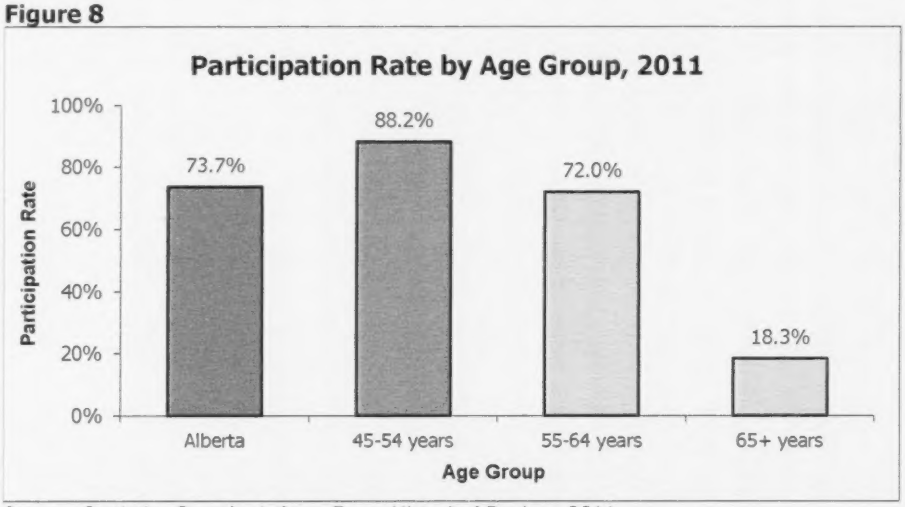
Figure 7



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

The participation rate of Albertans aged 45-54, at 88.2%, was the highest among the three age groups and was 14.5 percentage points higher than the provincial rate. (Figure 8)

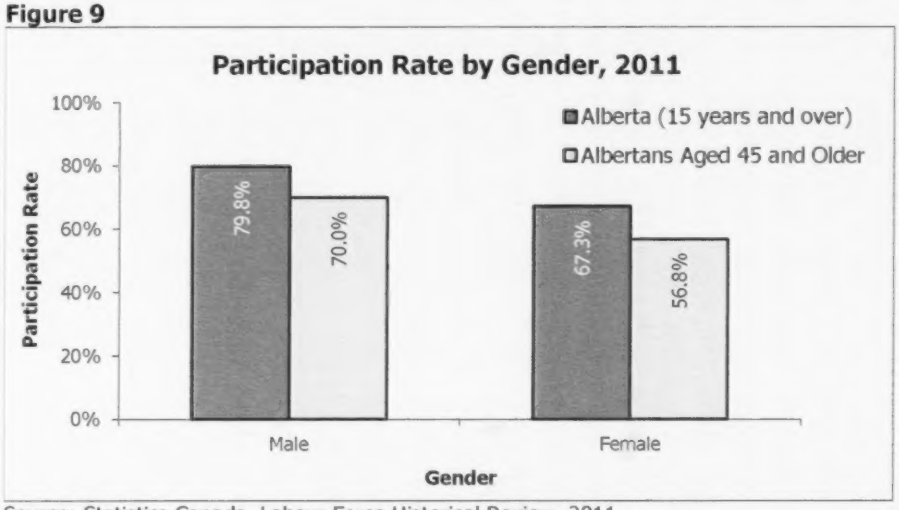
Figure 8



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

For both genders, Albertans aged 45 and older had a lower participation rate than all Albertans. (Figure 9) Females aged 45 and older had a participation rate of 56.8%, which was 13.2 percentage points below the rate for males aged 45 and older.

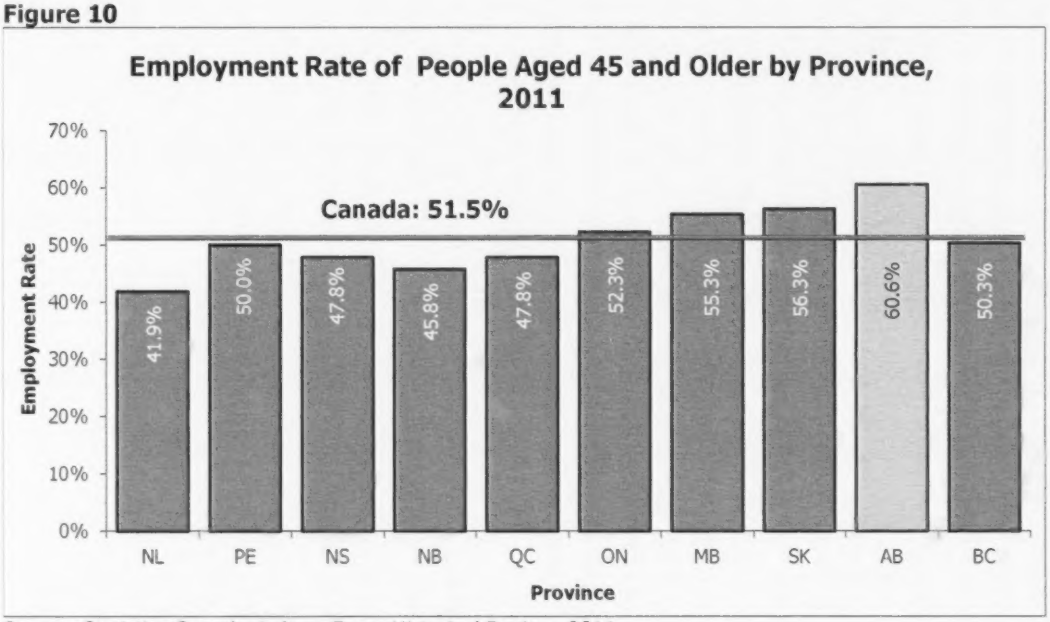
Figure 9



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

In 2011, Albertans aged 45 years and older had the highest employment rate among all provinces at 60.6%. (Figure 10) This was 9.1 percentage points higher than the Canadian average for people aged 45 and older.

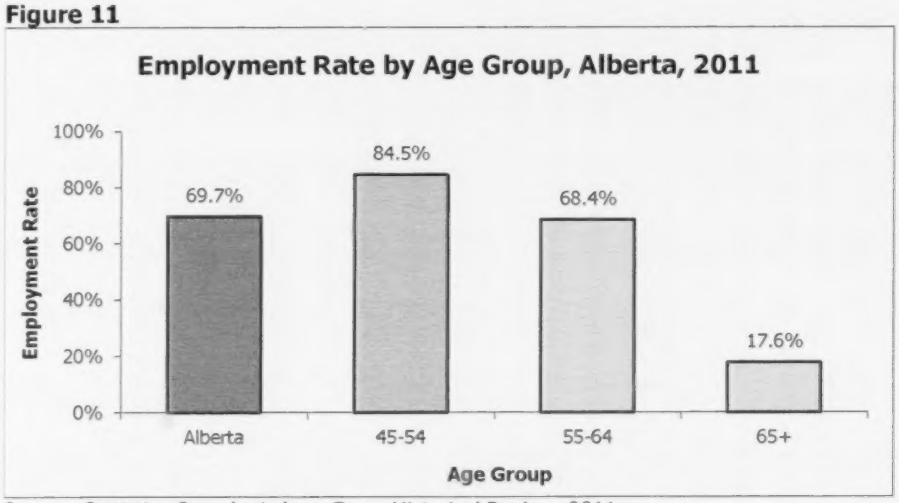
Figure 10



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

In 2011, the employment rate of Albertans aged 45-54 years was the highest among the three age groups and was 14.8 percentage points higher than the provincial rate. (Figure 11)

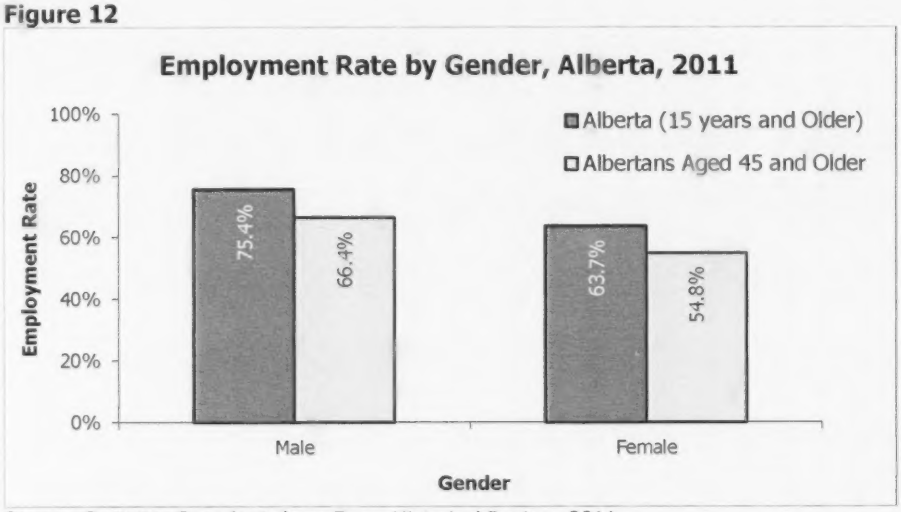
Figure 11



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

The employment rate of females aged 45 and older was 11.6 percentage points lower than their male counterparts and 14.9 percentage points lower than the provincial rate. (Figure 12)

Figure 12



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

In 2011, the full-time employment rate was highest among those aged 45-54. (Figure 13) The rate of part-time employment among those aged 65 years and older was more than double the provincial rate.

Approximately one in ten employed workers aged 45-54 worked part-time compared to four in ten for employed workers aged 65 years and over.

Figure 13

Full-time/Part-time Employment by Age Group, Alberta, 2011					
	Total Employment	Full-time		Part-time	
		Number	%	Number	%
Alberta	2,094,100	1,736,000	82.9%	358,200	17.1%
45+ years	822,200	690,900	84.0%	131,300	16.0%
45-54 years	469,900	412,000	87.7%	57,800	12.3%
55-64 years	284,500	237,800	83.6%	46,700	16.4%
65+ years	67,800	41,000	60.5%	26,700	39.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

Albertans aged 45 and older had a higher proportion of full-time employment than Alberta's working age population, aged 15 years and over. (Figure 14) The share of Albertan males aged 45 and older in full-time employment was 91.8% compared to 74.8% for females aged 45 and older.

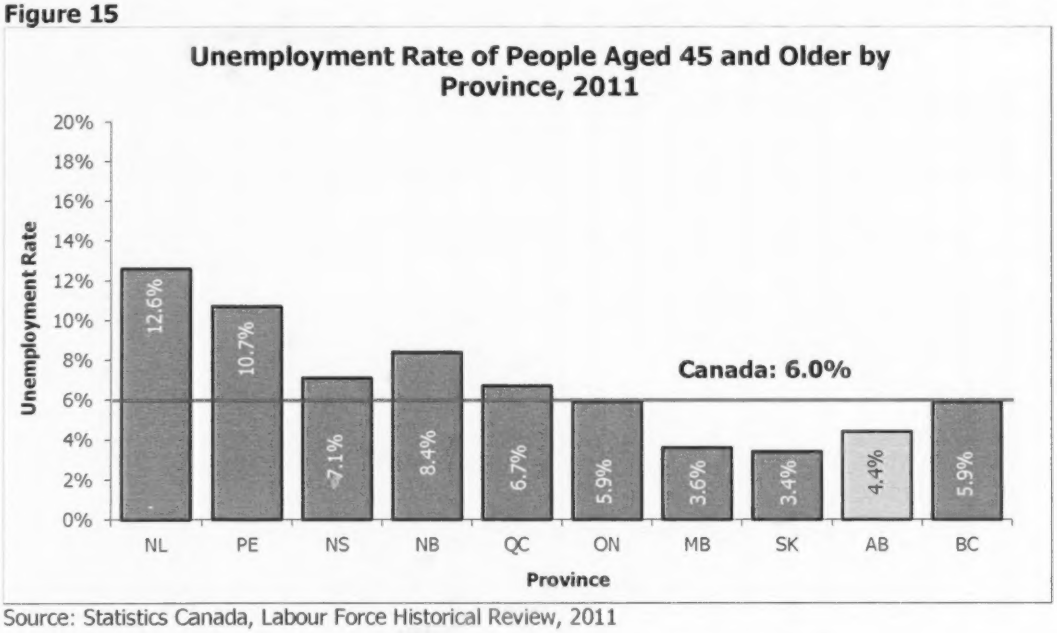
Figure 14

Full-time/Part-time Employment by Gender, Alberta, 2011				
	Albertans (45+ years)		Albertans (15+ Years)	
	Employment (45+ Years)	% of total	Employment (15+ Years)	% of total
Both Genders	822,200	100.0%	2,094,100	100.0%
Full-time	690,900	84.0%	1,736,000	82.9%
Part-time	131,300	16.0%	358,200	17.1%
Male	446,800	100.0%	1,154,600	100.0%
Full-time	410,100	91.8%	1,048,300	90.8%
Part-time	36,700	8.2%	106,300	9.2%
Female	375,400	100.0%	939,500	100.0%
Full-time	280,800	74.8%	687,700	73.2%
Part-time	94,600	25.2%	251,900	26.8%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

The unemployment rate of Albertans aged 45 and older was 4.4% in 2011, the third lowest in the country behind Saskatchewan's 3.4% and Manitoba's 3.6%. (Figure 15)

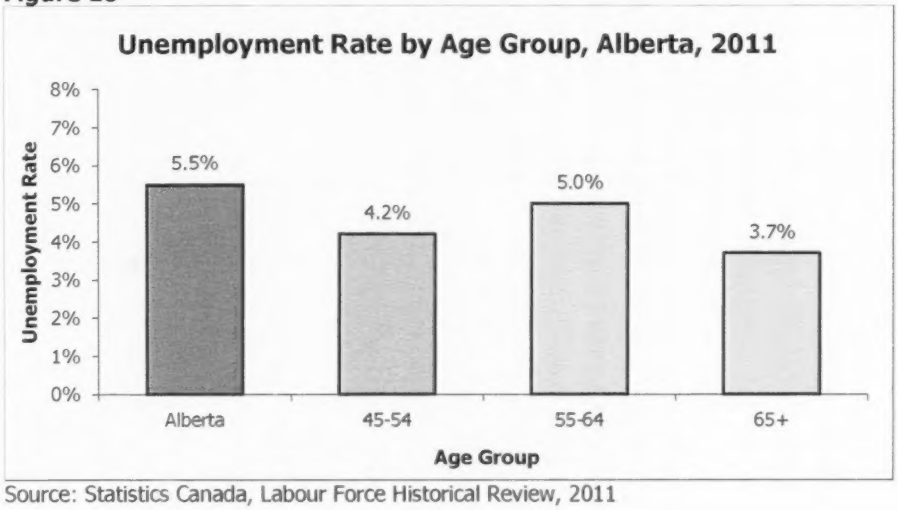
Figure 15



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

The unemployment rates for Albertans aged 45 and older in all age groups were lower than the provincial rate in 2011. (Figure 16)

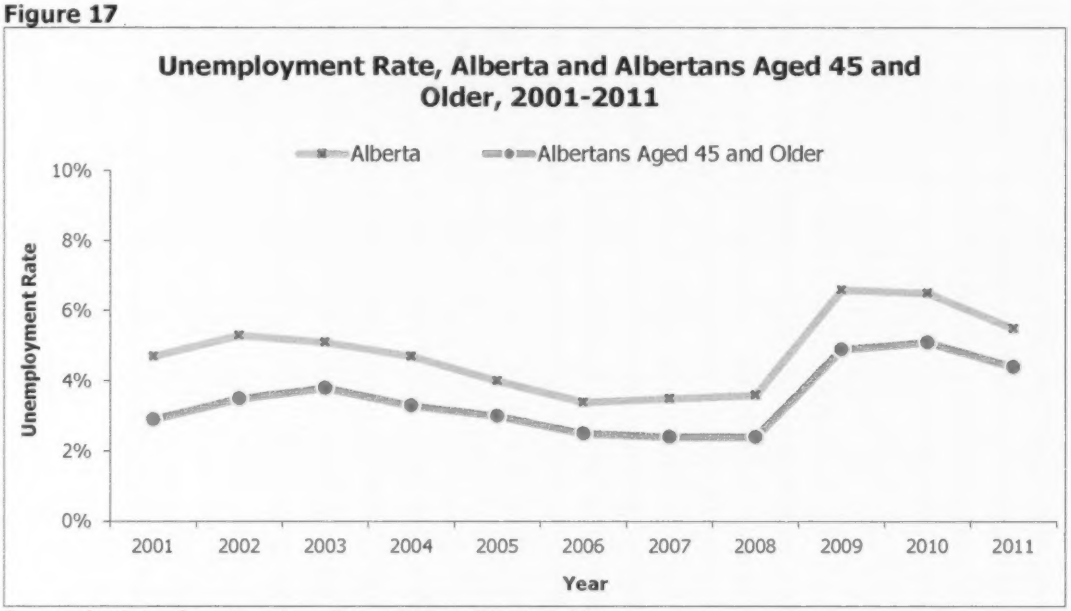
Figure 16



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

Alberta's unemployment rate decreased from 6.5% in 2010 to 5.5% in 2011. (Figure 17) The rate for Albertans aged 45 and older also decreased by 0.7 percentage points to 4.4% in 2011. Over the last ten years, unemployment rate for Albertans aged 45 and older was consistently lower than the provincial rate.

Figure 17



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

3. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Industry

In 2011, 72.8% of Albertans aged 45 and older were employed in the Services-Producing sector while the rest were employed in the Goods-Producing sector. (Figure 18) Males accounted for 77.9% of Albertans aged 45 and older who were employed in the Goods-Producing sector and females accounted for 22.1%. In the Services-Producing sector, the male share of employed aged 45 and older was 45.5% and 54.5% were female.

Of the 375,400 employed female Albertans aged 45 and older, 58.1% were employed in the following five main industries: Health Care and Social Assistance; Educational Services; Retail Trade; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; and Public Administration.

The following five industries employed 50.6% of male Albertans aged 45 and older: Construction; Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; and Manufacturing; and Transportation and Warehousing.

Figure 18

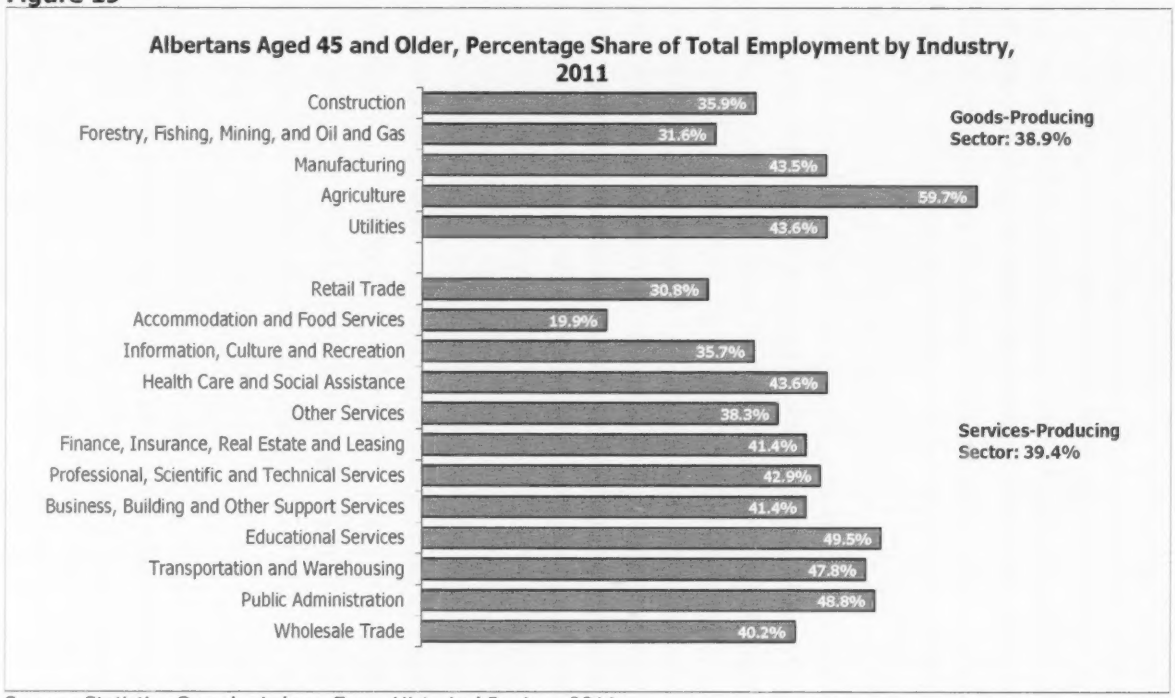
Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Industry and Gender, 2011

	Albertans (45+ years)	Male (45+ years)	Female (45+ years)
Goods-Producing Sector	**223,900**	**77.9%**	**22.1%**
Agriculture	30,900	68.7%	31.3%
Construction	75,600	86.7%	13.3%
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	48,800	77.3%	22.7%
Manufacturing	61,500	72.4%	27.6%
Utilities	7,100	75.3%	24.7%
Services-Producing Sector	**598,300**	**45.5%**	**54.5%**
Accommodation and Food Services	26,000	41.9%	58.1%
Educational Services	63,000	30.3%	69.7%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	41,400	46.4%	53.6%
Health Care and Social Assistance	98,100	16.6%	83.4%
Information, Culture and Recreation	28,200	51.5%	48.5%
Business, Building and Other Support Services	30,300	52.8%	47.2%
Other Services	40,300	52.6%	47.4%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	70,200	57.2%	42.8%
Public Administration	41,400	47.8%	52.2%
Retail Trade	71,200	42.9%	57.1%
Transportation and Warehousing	51,300	73.7%	26.3%
Wholesale Trade	36,900	73.0%	27.0%
Total	**822,200**	**54.3%**	**45.7%**

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

In 2011, the Agricultural industry had the highest proportion of Albertans aged 45 and older, at 59.7%, followed by Educational Services, at 49.5%. (Figure 19) Accommodation and Food Services had the lowest percentage of Albertans aged 45 and older, at 19.9%, followed by Retail Trade, at 30.8%.

Figure 19



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

4. Employment of Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Occupation

The proportions of employed Albertans aged 45 and older were higher than that of Albertans in the following occupations: Management; Business, finance and administrative; Health; Unique to primary industry; and Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities. (Figure 20)

Figure 20

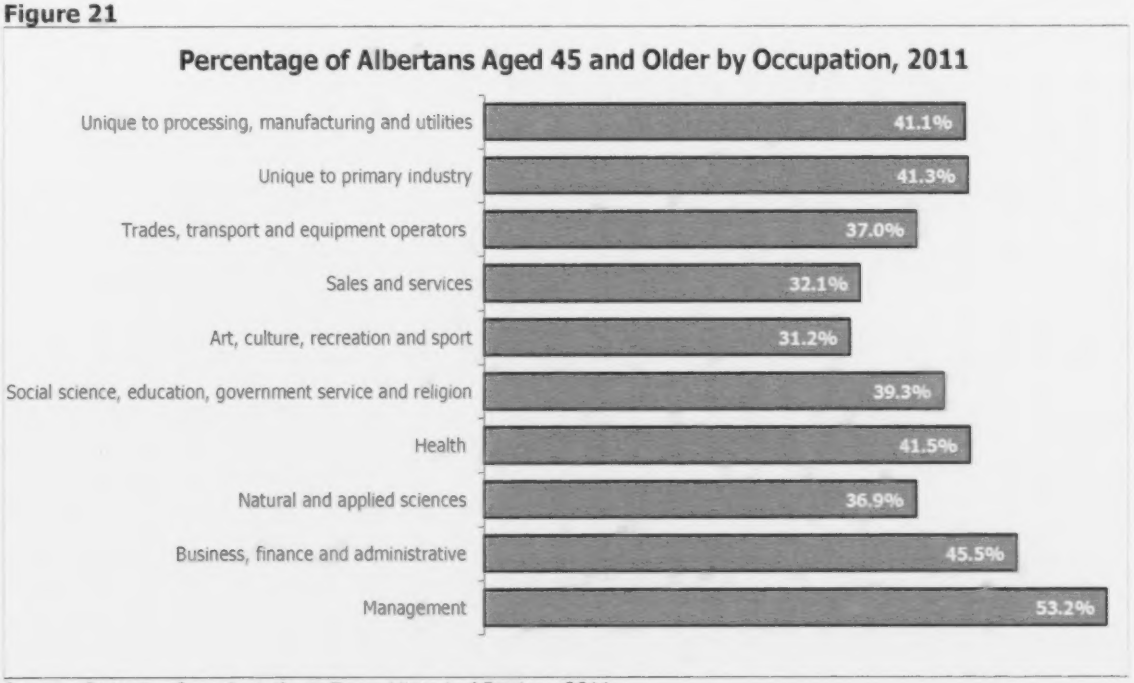
Distribution of Employed Albertans and Albertans Aged 45 and Older by Occupation, 2011

Occupation	Albertans (15+ years)	Albertans (45+ years)
Management	7.5%	10.1%
Business, finance and administration	18.0%	20.8%
Natural and applied sciences	8.3%	7.8%
Health	6.0%	6.3%
Social science, education, government and religion	7.5%	7.5%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	2.3%	1.8%
Sales and services	23.3%	19.1%
Trades, transportation and equipment operators	18.6%	17.5%
Unique to primary industry	5.4%	5.7%
Unique to processing, manufucturing and utilities	3.3%	3.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

In 2011, Management had the highest percentage of employed people aged 45 and older, at 53.2%. Art, culture, recreation and sport had the lowest, at 31.2%. (Figure 21)

Figure 21



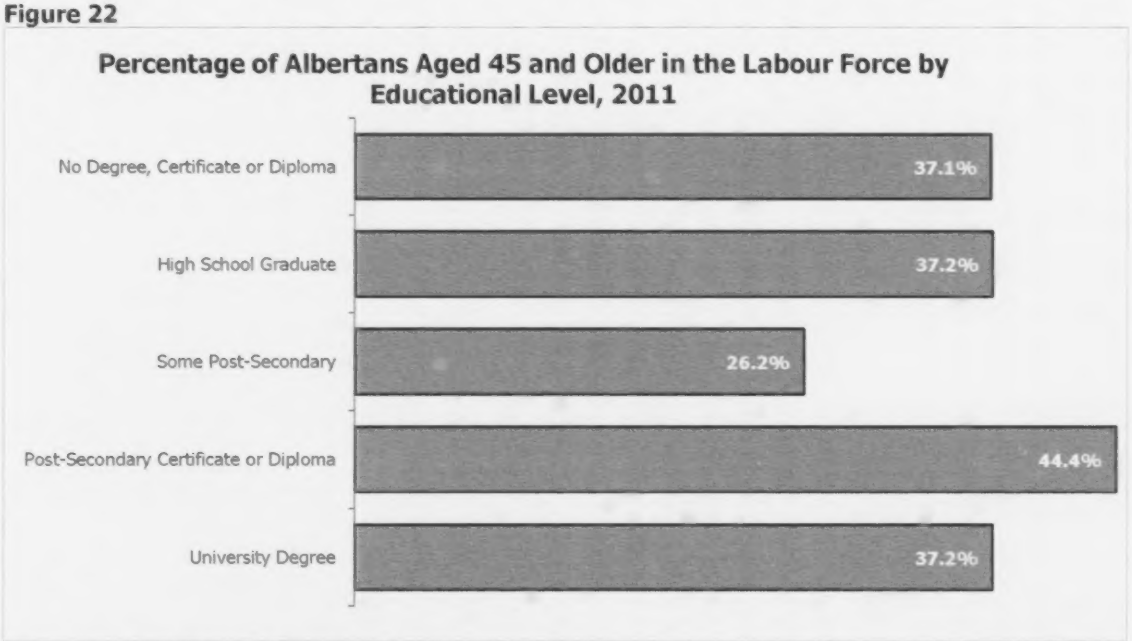
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

5. Educational Levels of Alberta's Labour Force Aged 45 and Older

In 2011, Albertans aged 45 and older accounted for 37.1% of Albertans in the labour force who had no degree, certificate or diploma. (Figure 22) They also accounted for 44.4% of Albertans with a post-secondary certificate or diploma, and 37.2% of Albertans with a university degree.

Overall, 21.5% of Albertans aged 45 and older had a university degree, compared to 22.4% of Albertans.

Figure 22



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

Between 2001 and 2011, the number of Albertans aged 45 and older in the labour force that had completed high school increased by 86.0% compared to 44.2% for Albertans. (Figure 23) Similarly, the number of people aged 45 and older in the labour force that had a university degree increased by 61.2% compared to an increase of 61.6% for Albertans. Those who had attained a post-secondary certificate or diploma increased by 71.4% compared to an increase of 32.7% for Albertans over the same period of time.

Figure 23

Albertans in the Labour Force by Educational Level, 2001 and 2011						
Educational level	Albertans (15+ years)			Albertans (45+ years)		
	2001	2011	Change	2001	2011	Change
No Degree, Certificate or Diploma	274,400	273,700	-700	84,400	101,600	17,200
High School Graduate	358,800	517,300	158,500	103,500	192,500	89,000
Some Post-Secondary	195,400	165,700	-29,700	44,900	43,400	-1,500
Post-Secondary Certificate or Diploma	573,900	761,300	187,400	197,000	337,700	140,700
University Degree	307,700	497,100	189,400	114,700	184,900	70,200

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

In general, higher educational levels resulted in lower unemployment rates for both age categories. (Figure 24) The unemployment rates for all educational levels increased between 2001 and 2011 due to the economic downturn. However, the rates for Albertans aged 45 and older were generally lower than the provincial rates.

Figure 24

Unemployment Rate by Educational Level, 2001 and 2011				
Educational Level	2001		2011	
	Albertans (15+ years)	Albertans (45+ years)	Albertans (15+ years)	Albertans (45+ years)
No Degree, Certificate or Diploma	8.4%	3.4%	11.0%	9.2%
High School Graduate	4.3%	2.7%	5.7%	4.3%
Some Post-Secondary	5.1%	3.3%	6.5%	3.7%
Post-Secondary Certificate or Diploma	3.5%	3.0%	4.0%	3.8%
University Degree	3.0%	2.4%	3.6%	3.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2011

Appendix

All definitions are from the Guide to the Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE.

Employment Rate: The number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of working age population (WAP).

Full-time Employment: Those persons who usually work 30 hours or more per week at their main or only job.

Industry: The general nature of the business carried out by the employer for whom the respondent works (main job only).

Labour Force: The labour force is composed of the portion of the WAP who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed. The reference week is defined as the week containing the 15th day of the month in which information is collected for the Labour Force Survey.

Occupation: The kind of work persons 15+ years were doing during the reference week, as determined by the kind of work reported and the description of the most important duties of the job. If the individual did not have a job during the reference week, the data relates to the previous job, if that job was held in the past year.

Part-time Employment: Consists of all other persons who usually work less than 30 hours per week.

Participation Rate: The total labour force expressed as a percentage of the WAP. This measure represents the proportion of the WAP that is either employed or actively seeking employment.

Unemployment Rate: The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Working Age Population: Those persons 15+ years, except persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions, and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.